

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter.

1. (Currently Amended) A data communication system for communicating data between a central office and a ~~remote~~ customer premises that is remotely located from said central office, comprising:

 a first transceiver coupled to a first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote~~ customer premises, said first transceiver configured to communicate with a transceiver located at said central office;

 a second transceiver coupled to a second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote~~ customer premises; and

 control logic residing at said ~~remote~~ customer premises, said control logic configured to detect an error condition associated with communication between said first transceiver and said transceiver located at said central office, said control logic configured to transmit, in response to a detection of said error condition, a switch notification to said central office via said second transceiver and said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line, wherein at least one component at said central office is configured to route data over said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line in response to said switch notification.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one component switches, in response to said switch notification, communication from said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line to said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a first chassis and a second chassis located at said central office, wherein said transceiver located at said central office is mounted in said first chassis, and wherein a third transceiver mounted in said second chassis is configured to receive said switch notification and to backup said transceiver mounted in said first chassis based on said switch notification.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein data to be communicated over said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line is communicated, based on said switch notification, over said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line in lieu of said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line provides a management link and a communication link between said remote customer premises and said central office.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein said management link is terminated by a framer, and wherein said communication link is terminated by said second transceiver.

7. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein said management link is terminated prior to said error condition, and wherein said second transceiver is configured to terminate said communication link in response to said switch notification.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein said management link is terminated by a framer prior to said error condition.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a switch coupled to a communication device and to said first and second transceivers, wherein said control logic is configured to change a state of said switch in response to said detection of said error condition.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein said control logic changes said state in response to said detection such that said first transceiver is electrically isolated from said communication device and such that said second transceiver is conductively coupled to said communication device.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein said at least one component is configured to route data destined for said communication device to said first transceiver prior to said error condition, said at least one component further configured to route data destined for said communication device to a third transceiver based on said switch notification, said third transceiver coupled to said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line and configured to communicate with said second transceiver.

12. (Currently Amended) A data communication system having a central office and a ~~remote customer~~ premises that is remotely located from said central office, comprising:

 a first transceiver coupled to a first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote customer~~ premises, said first transceiver configured to communicate, via said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line, with a transceiver located at said central office;

 a second transceiver coupled to a second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote customer~~ premises;

a communication device in communication with said first transceiver; and control logic residing at said ~~remote customer~~ premises, said control logic configured to initiate, in response to a detection of an error condition, a backup switch such that said communication device communicates with said second transceiver in lieu of said first transceiver, said control logic further configured transmit information indicative of said backup switch to said central office, wherein data destined for said communication device is transmitted, based on said information, to said second transceiver via said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line in lieu of said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, further comprising a first chassis and a second chassis located at said central office, wherein said transceiver located at said central office is mounted in said first chassis, and wherein a transceiver mounted in said second chassis is configured to receive said information and to backup said transceiver mounted in said first chassis based on said information.

14. (Original) The system of claim 12, further comprising a switch coupled to said first transceiver, said second transceiver, and said communication device, said switch configured to conductively couple said first transceiver to said communication device prior to said backup switch, wherein said control logic is configured to change a state of said switch during said backup switch such that said switch conductively couples said communication device to said second transceiver.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line provides a management link and a communication link, and wherein said management link is terminated by a framer and said communication link is terminated by said second transceiver.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said second transceiver is configured to terminate said communication link in response to said backup switch initiated by said control logic.

17. (Currently Amended) A data communication system having a central office and a ~~remote~~ customer premises that is remotely located from said central office, comprising:

a chassis for holding a first ~~remote~~ customer premises transceiver and a second ~~remote~~ customer premises transceiver, said first ~~remote~~ customer premises transceiver coupled to a first central office transceiver via a first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote~~ customer premises, said second ~~remote~~ customer premises transceiver coupled to a second central office transceiver via a second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote~~ customer premises; and

control logic mounted on said chassis, said control logic configured to initiate a backup switch in response to a detection, by said control logic, of an error condition associated with communication occurring over said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line, said control logic configured to switch said communication from said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line to said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line, wherein at least one component at said central office is responsive to said control logic for routing data to said second central office transceiver in lieu of said first central office transceiver.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a first central office chassis and a second central office chassis, wherein said first central office transceiver is mounted in said first central office chassis and said second central office transceiver is mounted in said second central office chassis.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line provides a management link and a communication link, and wherein said management link is terminated by a framer and said communication link is terminated by said second ~~remote customer premises~~ transceiver in response to said backup switch initiated by said control logic.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, further comprising a switch coupled to said first ~~remote customer premises~~ transceiver, said second ~~remote customer premises~~ transceiver, and a communication device residing at said ~~remote customer~~ premises, said switch configured to conductively couple said first ~~remote customer premises~~ transceiver to said communication device prior to said backup switch, wherein said control logic is configured to change a state of said switch during said backup switch such that said switch conductively couples said communication device to said second ~~remote customer premises~~ transceiver.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating between a central office and a ~~remote customer~~ premises that is remotely located from said central office, comprising the steps of:

communicating between a first ~~remote customer~~ premises transceiver and a first central office transceiver via a first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote customer~~ premises;

detecting an error condition associated with said communicating step;

transmitting, in response to said error condition, a switch notification from a second ~~remote customer premises~~ transceiver to a second central office transceiver via a second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line extending from said central office to said ~~remote customer~~ premises;
and

performing a backup switch in response to said switch notification such that a communication device previously communicating over said first ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line switches to communicating over said second ~~communication connection~~ subscriber line.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said first central office transceiver is mounted in a first chassis and said second central office transceiver is mounted in a second chassis, and wherein said method further comprises the step of initiating communication between said second central office transceiver and said second ~~remote customer~~ premises transceiver in response to said switch notification.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said performing step comprises the step of changing a state of a switch that is coupled to said first remote customer premises transceiver, said second remote customer premises transceiver, and said communication device.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising the steps of: establishing a management link over said second communication connection subscriber line; communicating status and control information via said management link; and establishing a communication link over said second communication connection subscriber line in response to said switch notification.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising the steps of: terminating said management link via a framer residing at said remote customer premises; and terminating said communication link via said second remote customer premises transceiver.